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UNCLAS ANKARA 000246

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DOE FOR C. WASHINGTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [I2](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: TURKEY EXPORTS 180 MW OF ELECTRICITY TO NORTHERN
IRAQ

Sensitive But Unclassified.

1. (SBU) On a January 13 visit to the Karadeniz power plant near Silopi, southeast Turkey, which began providing electricity to northern Iraq in September 2003, Ankara and Adana officers learned that the plant is currently exporting about 180 MW across the border. The transmission line connecting the plant to the electricity grid around Dohuk has a capacity of between 200 and 225 MW, according to the plant manager.

2. (SBU) Karadeniz recently added 100 MW of generating capacity at the plant -- bringing total capacity to 175 MW. However, the plant generates only about 85 MW on average, because the plant does not receive bartered fuel oil from Iraq (as originally planned) and must purchase more expensive fuel oil in Turkey. The rest of the power for Iraq is purchased by Karadeniz from the Turkish hydroelectric plant at the Keban dam (25 MW) and from the the Turkish electricity grid (about 70 MW).

Baghdad Minimize Considered.

EDELMAN